

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 01446 180938Z
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 L-03 ACDA-07 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00
DLOS-06 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00
NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 SAL-01 FEA-01 /129 W
-----180941 091834 /20

P R 180848Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2224
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, US, UR, KS
SUBJECT: ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR FOREIGN FISHING
OF U.S. PACIFIC COAST FOR 1977

REF: STATE 36768

1. EMBOFF PRESENTED PRELIMINARY ROK QUOTAS AND CONDITIONS
ATTACHED TO THEM TO ECONOMIC AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR
HAM TAE HYUK CAREFULLY FOLLOWING REFTEL INSTRUCTIONS.

2. AFTER PRESENTATION, DIRECTOR HAM STATED THAT HE WISHED
ON BEHALF OF THE ROKG TO THANK THE USG FOR ITS EFFORTS
TO APPLY TO QUOTAS EQUITABLY AND TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT
ECONOMIC DISLOCATIONS WHICH THEY WILL CAUSE. HE SAID
THAT DESPITE USG'S EFFORTS, HIS GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THAT
THE SIZE OF THE QUOTA WILL GRAVELY DISLOCATE THE KOREAN
FISHING INDUSTRY SHOULD IT BE UNABLE TO CONTINUE ITS
FISHING ACTIVITIES IN THE KAMCHATKA AREA. THEREFORE,
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PAGE 02 SEOUL 01446 180938Z

THE ROKG PARTICULARLY APPRECIATES THE USG ROLE IN
ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN CONTINUED ROK ACCESS TO THOSE
WATERS. SHOULD THE US EFFORT FAIL TO MAINTAIN THE RIGHT
OF KOREAN FISHERMEN TO ENTER THAT AREA, THE ROKG SINCERELY
HOPES THAT THE USG WILL GIVE ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION TO
INCREASING THE QUOTA IT FINALLY DECIDES TO ALLOCATE TO
THE ROK FOR 1977.

3. HAM NOTED THAT THE 78,700 METRIC TONS TOTAL PRESENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT IS NOT A FINAL FIGURE AND OBSERVED THAT THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FISHERIES HAD RETURNED FROM WASHINGTON WITH EXPECTATIONS THAT THE ROK WOULD RECEIVE A 90,000 METRIC TON TOTAL QUOTA. THAT AMOUNT HAD BEEN GIVEN WIDESPREAD MEDIA ATTENTION THEREBY CREATING POPULAR EXPECTATIONS OF AN ALLOCATION OF AT LEAST THAT AMOUNT. HAM WISHES SINCERELY TO IMPORE THE USG TO RENEW ITS EFFORTS TO PROVIDE A FINAL QUOTA WHICH WOULD AVOID FURTHER POPULAR SHOCK, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT HAD HELD OFF STRONG PRESSURE FOR A FORMAL REQUEST MUCH LARGER THAN THE 150,000 TONS IT HAD PRESENTED TO THE US.

4. HAM EXPRESSED DISMAY THAT FISH CAUGHT FROM JANUARY 1 WOULD BE COUNTED AGAINST THE QUOTA. HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAD NO IDEA OF WHETHER ANY OF KOREAN VESSELS HAD CAUGHT ANY FISH SINCE JANUARY 1, THERE HAD BEEN NO RPT NO MENTION BY THE USG TO DATE THAT THE QUOTAS WOULD BE RETROACTIVE. HE SPECULATED THAT SHOULD, FOR EXAMPLE, THE ROK FLEET HAVE ALREADY CAUGHT 70,000 TONS SINCE JANUARY, AN ALREADY DIRE IMPACT MIGHT BE REDOUBLED BECAUSE ALL FISHING WOULD BE FINISHED FOR THE YEAR. INASMUCH AS THE FC&M ACT NOWHERE APPEARS TO PRESCRIBE OTHER THAN A MARCH TO FEBRUARY PERIOD, HE EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT FAIRNESS WOULD REQUIRE SOME DIFFERENT ARRANGEMENT. (SUBSEQUENT CHECK INDICATES THAT THERE HAVE BEEN O RPT NO ROK POLLACK VESSELS IN US ZONE THIS YEAR, BUT 23 VESSELS HAVE BEEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 SEOUL 01446 180938Z

FISHING BLACK COD.)

5. ON A PERSONAL BASIS HE OBSERVED THAT STRESS ON TRADITIONAL FISHING (EVEN THOUGH THE US HAD NOT RESTRICTED KOREA TO ITS TRADITIONAL BASE) WOULD PRECLUDE FISHING BY ANY OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HE WONDERED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF INDIA REACHED THE STAGE OF FISHING DEVELOPMENT WHEREIN IT MIGHT DESIRE TO BEGIN A DEEP SEA FISHERY. RHETORICALLY, HE QUESTIONED WHETHER IT WOULD BE FOREVER PRECLUDED BY AN ACCIDENT OF TIMING.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S COMMENT OR BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON RETROACTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACT. ADDITIONALLY, HAM POINTED OUT THAT COMPARED TO JAPANESE AND SOVIET QUOTA AMOUNTS, THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PRELIMINARY TOTAL AND 90,000 METRIC TONS WOULD BE A RATHER SMALL AMOUNT. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S APPRAISAL OF WHETHER 11,000 TONS MIGHT BE FOUND TO ALLEVIATE SEVER POLITICAL

AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES WHICH EVEN 90,000 TON LEVEL WILL
HAVE FOR THIS COUNTRY.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISHERIES, FISHING LIMITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SEOUL01446
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770058-0491
Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770226/aaaaaxjw.tel
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